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February Updates from the Public Access Room



January Workshop Recordings Now Available on YouTube

Andy and Keanu from the Public Access Room hosted 3 different workshops in January to help everyone get ready now that the 2025 Legislative Session has started. Want to watch the recordings? [Visit our YouTube channel!](#)

[2025 Your Voice: Participating at the Hawaii State Legislature](#)
[2025 Legislative Calendar and Deadlines](#)
[2025 Get to Know the Legislature's Website](#)

This information is also available on our website: <https://lrh.hawaii.gov/par/2025-january-workshop-recordings-available-to-watch/>



PAR's 2025 Team! Andy, Keanu, Alyssa, and Lacey.
We look forward to your visit, calls, and emails!

Updated [House Rules for 2025-26](#) have been posted, as adopted by [HR6](#).

Don't forget to visit [PAR's Current Legislature webpage](#)

You can find a copy of the legislative calendar, information about House and Senate committees (including the days and times each meet), contact information for legislative offices, and more!

One of the handouts PAR staff thinks is particularly useful right now is the [Which Deadlines Apply to My Bill handout](#). This handout complements the session calendar - providing a diagram to help people quickly see which deadlines are coming up based on how many committees to which the bill was referred. Take a look!

Which Deadlines Apply to My Bill? (2025)

Determining which legislative deadlines apply to a particular bill can be a challenge. This diagram should help!

Deadlines appear in purple. To become law, a bill must meet each relevant legislative deadline.

Other deadlines and circumstances may apply. For more information and advocacy tips, contact the Public Access Room (PAR).

January 23th – Bill Introduction Cutoff

Last day for a bill to be filed with the House or Senate Clerk. After being filed, a bill is given a number (with an HB or SB prefix) and scheduled for First Reading in the originating chamber. Bills must survive at least three Readings (votes) on the floor of each chamber. Following First Reading, each bill is referred to committee(s).

How many committee referrals did the bill receive?

A joint committee referral (delineated by a slash between two committees, i.e. "AGR/CPC") counts as one referral.

Three

Two

One

February 5th or 6th – First Triple Referral Filing

Last day for a bill referred to three committees to be heard, passed, and filed by the first committee – February 5th for House bills, February 6th for Senate bills. This enables the bill to move to its second-to-last committee the following day.

February 13th – First Lateral Filing

Last day for a bill referred to more than one committee to be filed to move to its final committee.

February 28th – First Decking

Last day for a bill to pass Second Reading and be heard, passed, and filed by the final committee in its originating Chamber. This ensures legislators have at least 48 hours to review the bill prior to Third Reading. *(Exception: The Budget Bill has a later deadline.)*

March 6th - First Crossover

Last day for a bill to pass Third Reading in its originating chamber so it can "cross-over" to the other chamber. After crossing over, the bill passes First Reading and is referred to committee(s) again, now in the non-originating chamber. *(Exception: The Budget Bill has a later deadline.)*

Note:—Single Referral Senate bills must be filed one day prior to the First Decking Deadline.

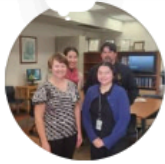
How many committee referrals did the bill receive in its non-originating chamber?

Find this handout on [PAR's Current Legislature webpage](#) under Calendars & Deadlines - Which Deadlines Apply to My Bill

Are you following us on Social Media? Our posts share tips for using the Legislature's Website, information on Upcoming Deadlines, and more!

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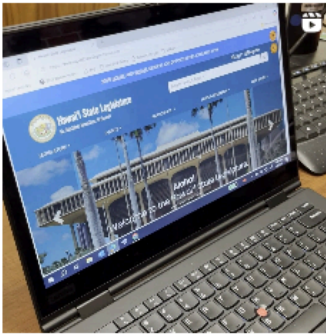
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Public Access Room (PAR), Hawaii State Legislature
Check out our workshops at <https://lrh.hawaii.gov/par/workshops/>
and register for upcoming zoom workshops.
linktr.ee/publicaccessroomhawaii



New

POSTS REELS SAVED TAGGED



TRIPLE REFERRAL FILING DEADLINE

LAST DAY FOR A BILL REFERRED TO THREE COMMITTEES TO BE HEARD, PASSED, AND FILED BY THE FIRST COMMITTEE. THIS ENABLES THE BILL TO MOVE TO ITS SECOND-TO-LAST COMMITTEE.

House Deadline: Feb. 5
Senate Deadline: Feb. 6

HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT PAR
EMAIL: PAR@CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV
PHONE: 808-587-0478

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN SEE BILLS BY THEIR CURRENT COMMITTEES?

THIS CAN GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF BILLS BY TOPIC

JUST FOLLOW THESE STEPS!

Go to capital.hawaii.gov and click on **Reports & Lists** under the **Laws & Research** drop down menu

EVENT TO CONTINUE

Is a bill you're passionate about accepting public testimony?

Want to participate but don't know where to start?

then swipe to learn more!

All bills have been introduced for the 2025 session

BILL INTRODUCTION CUTOFF DEADLINE: JANUARY 29, 2025

Last House Bill: HB1503
Last Senate Bill: SB1669

YOU CAN FIND AND READ BILLS ONLINE AT CAPITOL.HAWAII.GOV > LAWS & RESEARCH > REPORTS & LISTS

BILL INTRODUCERS

How do you know who introduced a bill? Look for the list of bill numbers on the bill page:

- Bill Primary Introducer:** the first name on the bill is all CAPS/PL/Introduction of the Bill
- Billers Introducing:** any additional names on the bill, in all CAPS/PL/S/Placing Requestor
- Co-Sponsor:** any first names listed alphabetically, in upper & lower case (Sponsor)

Public Access Room

Your Office at the Capitol

The non-partisan Public Access Room is here to help answer your questions about the legislative process and how to participate.

We're open year-round!

Please call 808-587-0478 or email par@capitol.hawaii.gov if we can be of assistance.



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Contact Us

808/587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov